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Join Jim Harrison on a culinary adventure

BY VICTORIA DIAZ

The Raw and the Cooked:
Adventures of a Roving
Gourmand
By Jim Harrison
(Grove Press, \$25)
Frankly, I can't always tell what
Jim Harrison is talking about, or
where he's going with his words.
However, in this collection of his
food columns (which appeared in
such magazines as Esquire, Men's
Journal, and Smart), he's great
fun to follow around, just to see
where he'll lead us.
On these pages, he's like a

dunta flux distributions and the see where he'll lead us. On these pages, he's like a loquacious dinner companion, holding forth on such diverse matters as curative foods ("the violent pasta dish... puttanesca" will brush away boredom, and "for... depression you must go to Rio... and eat a roast slice from the hump of a Zebu bull"), hunting woodcock near his home in upper Michigan, dining on bear (the fat tastes a bit rancid), the howling pain of gout, the delights of Zingerman's in Ann Arbor, and the culinary thrills at the Lark in West Bloomfield.

From time to time, Harrison hangs out and sups with movie folk like Harrison Ford, Danny DeVito, or Jack Nicholson. This came about because he writes screenplays now and then although it is clear here that screenwriting is not one of his favorite activities. He also pals around with famous "Goodies" such as the French gourmand-writer Gerard Oberle, and Mario

■ From time to time, Harrison hangs out and sups with movie folk like Harrison Ford, Danny DeVito, or Jack Nicholson. This came about because he writes. screenplays now and then – although it is clear here: that screenwriting is not one of his favorite activities. He also pals around with famous "foodies" such as the French gourmand-writer Gerard Oberle, and Mario.
Batall of TV's food channel.

Batali of TVs food channel. (At Batali's Babbo in New York. Harrison tells us he once had "what was easily he best meel I have best meet a consisting of such tasty treate as calamari, anachovies, lamb's tongue, goose liver ravioli, barbecued squab, grilled queil, duck bacon, and on and on and on.

Of course, we are to take some of his pronouncements with a soupcon of salt. Could he be kidding us, do you think, when he speaks of "a bill under consideration in the (Michigan) legislature that would allow Republicans to beat poor folks with ... cudgels on Monday afternoons during the ... winter months"? And I'm not at all sure that Harrison finished off an entire piglet all by himself, and at one sitting. Or that he and Orson Welles once enjoyed a repast of "a half-pound of belung with a bottle of Stolichnaya, a salmon in sorroi sauce, sweetbreads en croute, a miniature leg of lamb ..., with five wines, desserts, cheeses,

ports." Ah well, who knews? Like many suspected full-of-baloncy folk, ho's a riot as company.

The book also brings with it's distinct bonus. It contains, a memorable recipe for that plains, and simple dish (even disdained as downright lowly by some List.

If you tend toward heartburn and dyspepsis, perhaps it wolld be best to avoid. The Raw and the Cooked." though. It's one heavily-ladled food-and-wind the Cooked." though. It's one heavily-ladled food-and wind the cooked. The receipt another after another after another after another after another after another after somether after proced of his present of the present of the present of the present is Harrison's sometimes futly press. Here is a piece titled "Thirty-three Angles on Eating French," for instance. And here is Harrison, ralling against the greed of his government, while personally indulging his own appetites to gluttonous extremes, Finally, here is one of the most repellent accountings of a snake (burp, gulp) dining on a hapless tody you'll ever encounter.

Victoria Diaz is a freelance.



More phone choices save consumers money

s Michiganians sort through competing offers from local telephone service A offers from local telephone service providers, one thing is clear: consumers are reaping the rewards of having more choices.

In fact, in October, the United States Telecom Association named Michigan a "competition friendly state." heralding the state telecom industry's successful transition to local competition Already, new competitors operate more than one million local phone lines in Michigan.



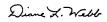
While our state benefits from huge gains in local competition, Michiganians still don't receive the best long-distance prices and service around — something that can only come through full telecommunications competition.

According to Consumer Action, AT&T and MCI WorldCom increased their basic rates by as much as 13 percent last year.

In states like Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Kansas, New York and In states like Okianoma, Pennsylvania, Kansas, New York and Texas — where full telecommunications competition is underway — consumers are saving millions on local and long-distance calls. New Yorkers alone are saving an estimated \$700 million this year — up to \$324 off some families' phone bills.

Michigan consumers are closer to realizing those same benefits. SBC Ameritech is working diligently with the Michigan Public Service Commission to ensure our state's local market is open to competition. SBC must show federal regulators that the local market is open before being approved to offer long-distance.

When SBC is approved to offer long-distance service in Michigan, competition will increase, consumers will have more choices, better prices, and innovative services and offerings. It's that simple. Now is the time to open our long-distance market to full competition.



Diane Webb



